

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A bumper beam of high strength steel comprising a hat profile (11-15) with a cover (10),

characterised in that the beam has a central portion (22) with a lower height profile than ~~the~~ side portions (20, 21) when viewed in cross section and, unlike the side portions, substantially only the this lower central portion (22) has a reinforcement in the form of a bent edge (23, 24) on at least one ~~of the side flanges flange~~ (14, 15) of the hat profile, said edge being bent ~~towards~~ away from the cover.

Claim 2. (currently amended) A vehicle having a front bumper beam mounted with ~~its~~ side portions (20, 21) on ~~the~~ side rails (18, 19) of the vehicle, the bumper beam comprising a hat profile (11 - 15) with a cover (10), the cover facing forwards,

characterised in that the beam has a central portion (22) with a lower height profile than ~~the~~ side portions (20, 21) when viewed in cross section and, unlike the side portions, this substantially only the lower central portion (22) has a reinforcement in the form of a bent edge (23, 24) on at least one ~~of the side flanges flange~~ (14, 15) of the hat profile, said edge being bent ~~towards~~ away from the cover.

Claim 3. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 2, characterised in that ~~the~~ a lower one (14) of the side flanges is straight horizontally whereas an ~~the~~ upper one (15) of the side flanges is bent downwardly from the side portions (20, 21) towards the central portion (22) by ~~a~~ the crown (11 - 13) being thinner in the central portion than in the side portions.

Claim 4. (original) A vehicle according to claim 3, characterised in that the upper side flange (15) has a bent edge (24) whereas the lower side flange (14) has no such bent edge.